



Pest Detection and Management Programs

Plant Protection and Quarantine

Weekly Notice, June 17, 2004

This "Weekly Notice" is prepared by the Pest Detection and Management Programs (PDMP) to communicate recent important events. These notices and other more detailed program information can be found at:

<http://www.aphis.usda.gov/ppq/ep/reports/>

WEED WAR REPORT:

Federal Interagency Committee on the Management of Noxious & Exotic Weeds (FICMNEW) Wins Award for Design of their Early Detection and Rapid Response (EDRR) Proposal:

May 24, 2004, a National Park Service news release announced that FICMNEW was the recipient of this year's American Planning Association's (APA) award in the Federal Planning Division (FPD) for Environmental Planning Excellence. A USDA press release is expected soon. FICMNEW was one of 42 entries in competition from across the nation. Its entry entitled, "*A National Early Detection and Rapid Response System for Invasive Plants in the United States-Conceptual Design*" was developed by the interagency committee over a five year period. For more information about FICMNEW, contact the following website at <http://ficmnew.fws.gov/>.

Weeds Across Borders (WAB) Conf. Al Tasker, Noxious Weed Program Manager chaired a session "International Ideas and Efforts for North America cooperation" at the WAB conference in Minneapolis, MN, sponsored by FICMNEW. The conference, led by the Dept of Transportation, was a follow-up to the conference held in 2002 in Tucson. Dr. Tasker gave a presentation on the development and status of the APHIS Agricultural Internet Monitoring System (AIMS) system.

California Invasive Weed Awareness Week: July 19 – 25, 2004, has been proclaimed Invasive Weeds Awareness Week in California by the California legislature. For additional information, please contact Wendy West at wendyw@co.el-dorado.ca.us or (530) 621-5520.

Salt Cedar and Russian Olive Control Demonstration Act

Salt Cedar Legislation is continuing to make rapid progress. The House of Representatives passed their version of the "Salt Cedar and Russian Olive Control Demonstration Act" (H.R. 2707) in February and the Senate passed a very similar version (S.1516ES) in late May. Because the Senate version is very similar to the House passed version it is likely that the House will vote again on the Senate passed version and thereby eliminate the need for a conference committee to resolve any differences. The chances are very good that this legislation will be signed into law this year. Details of the legislation can be found at <http://thomas.loc.gov/>

Salt Cedar Conference in New Mexico

A conference summary for the Tamarisk/Salt Cedar meeting held in New Mexico at the beginning of April is now posted at <http://www.invasivespecies.gov/teamtam/>.

Source: Alan V Tasker
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ALB Critical Issues Report:

New Jersey

The chemical treatment contract for the treatment of ALB host trees was awarded to Bartlett Tree Experts. Treatments are scheduled to begin about June 17, 2004.

New York

Robert Spaide will be meeting with First Deputy Commissioner Liam Kavanagh and a representative from the New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets during the week of June 21, 2004 to discuss the city's refusal to treat New York City elm trees.

Chemical treatments began in Central Park and also in Islip, Long Island this week.

NewsDay Long Island interviewed John Dodd, Legislative and Public Affairs, and Joseph Gittleman, NY ALB Project Director, about the NY ALB eradication program and the chemical treatment applications. The story is anticipated to be printed in this weekend's edition of the newspaper.



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News 12, a cable news network on Long Island, interviewed and filmed Joseph Gittleman on Friday June 11, 2004 about the NY ALB eradication program and the chemical treatment applications. The story is anticipated to air on the June 11th afternoon and evening newscast.

Illinois

The Metropolitan Tree Improvement Alliance will be holding a conference at the Morton Arboretum on June 16 - 19, 2004. The topic of the conference is "Increasing Tree Diversity for Sustainable Urban Forests". A presentation will be made on Emerald Ash Borer by Dr. Dave Smitley, Michigan State University. Dr. Jim Sellmer, Pennsylvania State University, will speak on "Evaluating ALB Adult Preference and Larval Preference for Commonly Grown Landscape Trees." A bus and walking tour of the Ravenswood community will be given on Saturday June 19th to demonstrate reforestation of an urban landscape after devastation from ALB.

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